formed substantially of cellulose fibers onto which is absorbed a composition comprising one or more aliphatic carboxylic acids having hydrocarbon chains consisting of 8 to 20 carbon atoms.

--19. A filter material as claimed in claim 18, wherein the one or more aliphatic carboxylic acids have hydrocarbon chains consisting of 10 to 18 carbon atoms.

--20. A filter material as claimed in claim 18, wherein the one or more carboxylic acids are selected from the group comprising stearic acid and palmitic acid.

C1 cont.

--21. A filter material as claimed in claim 18, wherein the matrix comprises a non-woven fibrous material.

--22. A filter material as claimed in claim 18, wherein the matrix comprises an open-cell foam material.

--23. A filter material as claimed in claim 18, wherein the matrix comprises a cotton or viscose gauze.

--24. A filter column comprising a hollow core upon which is mounted an alternating stack of filter plates and discs of the filter material as claimed in claim 18, wherein the filter plates are adapted to allow passage of fluid from a

circumferential region of the filter column to the hollow core by way of the discs of filter material.

--25. A filter cartridge comprising a hollow core around which is wrapped one or more layers of a filter material as claimed in claim 18.

--26. A filter pod comprising a casing internally divided into two chambers by a carrier which supports at least one filter cartridge as claimed in claim 25, the carrier and the at least one cartridge being arranged so that fluid can only pass from one chamber to the other by passing through both hollow tubular core and the filter material of at least one cartridge.

C1 cont.

--27. A method of cleaning a fluid by contacting the fluid with a filter material according to claim 18.

--28. A method according to claim 27, wherein the fluid is air.

--29. A method according to claim 27, wherein the fluid is water.